

[24 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demands raised in the Memorandum received from the All India Federation of Rubber Footwear Manufacturers were considered but it has not been found feasible by the Government to agree to the same.

**Impact of new EXIM Policy on domestic industry**

**4124. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:**

**SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the extent to which the EXIM Policy 2001-2002 is likely to affect the domestic producers and farmers?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):** The EXIM Policy aims to enhance the technological strength and efficiency of Indian agriculture and industry thereby improving their competitive strength. With a view to promote interest of farmers, a separate scheme of "Agricultural Exports Zone" has been incorporated in the EXIM Policy, 2001-2002 for end to end development and export of specific agriculture products from a geographically contiguous area.

Certain doubts have been expressed regarding its adverse impact on domestic producers and farmers in post QR regime. However, since adequate safeguards are available to protect farmers and domestic industry in the wake of removal of QR and imports of sensitive items are monitored very closely, domestic industry and farmers would not be adversely affected.